

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

November 3, 2021

CDC AUTHORIZES PFIZER COVID VACCINE FOR USE IN CHILDREN AGES 5 TO 11

CUMBERLAND, MD — On Tuesday, the CDC formally authorized the use of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine in children ages five to eleven, opening vaccination to roughly 4,000 Allegany County schoolchildren. On the heels of that decision, the Allegany County Health Department has announced that it is partnering with Allegany County Public Schools (ACPS) to offer afterschool vaccination clinics at various schools throughout the county. Registration information for those pediatric clinics has been sent to parents through local public and private schools.

"Together, with science leading the charge, we have taken another important step forward in our nation's fight against the virus that causes COVID-19," stated Dr. Rochelle P. Wallensky, CDC Director. "We know millions of parents are eager to get their children vaccinated and with this decision, we now have recommended that about 28 million children receive a COVID-19 vaccine. As a mom, I encourage parents with questions to talk to their pediatrician, school nurse or local pharmacist to learn more about the vaccine and the importance of getting their children vaccinated."

The Allegany County Health Department continues to offer Pfizer vaccine for individuals 12 and older at its vaccination clinics at the Allegany County Fairgrounds, including first, second, and booster doses. The next fairgrounds clinic will take place November 10 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Clinics are posted as they are scheduled on the health department's website (health.maryland.gov/allegany) and Facebook page (AlleganyHlthMD).

Drive-thru COVID testing continues to be offered at the fairgrounds on Mondays from 2 to 7 p.m. and on Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Allegany County COVID-19 Case and Vaccination Statistics as of November 2:

- New COVID Cases: 56 (cumulative total 9,863)
- Additional Deaths: 4 (cumulative total 253)
- Cases Per 100,000 Population: 24.95 (Maryland: 11.75)
- Positivity Rate: 5.6% (Maryland: 3.01%)
- Percent of population fully vaccinated: 47.0% (Maryland: 66.9%)

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